

Greenways and Trails TIDBITS

February 2008 Edition

TN Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)- June, 2007

Recreation Educational Services Division (RES), <http://www.tdec.net/recreation/grants.shtml>

RES is pleased to announce the new 2008 Grant Application process is open.

You can download the forms from the website above. Applications are available for Local Park and Recreation Fund (LPRF) funds, the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funds. **Application Deadline is 4 p.m. CST March 7, 2008.**

RES has published *“Pathways for Trail Building”* in cooperation with the Commissioner’s Council on Greenways and Trails. This 5.5” x 8.5” 2 color hard copy booklet covers trail design, layout and construction for non-motorized trails. For copies of this booklet, contact Bob Richards at 615-532-0753 or Robert.richards@state.tn.us. Go to www.tdec.net/recreation to be able to download an 8.5” x 11”, 4-color copy of this booklet.

Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards (TDEC) – March, 2008

Applications are available for the Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Award. Go to <http://www.tdec.net/awards> to download the application.

Deadline for applications is March 31, 2008.

Tennessee Youth Conservation Corp <http://www.tdec.net/tycc/>

Tennessee State Parks’ first Youth Conservation Corp was a great success! Twelve different crews worked hard in the numerous state parks and natural areas selected for the first year of this pilot program. And 102 young people learned new skills and visited new places during the course of their summer activities.

Go to the website for more information about the program and how to participate in 2008.

American Hiking Society <http://www.americanhiking.org/>

National Trails Day!

Be sure to put June 7, 2008 on your calendar and start planning for YOUR **2008 National Trails Day event!**

Go to the NTD website: <http://www.americanhiking.org/events/ntd/> to register your 2008 event.

Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation Department www.nashville.gov/parks

There is a new “Nature Center section on Metro Parks website – www.nashville.gov/parks/nature . Check out the 2 new Nature Centers at the **Shelby Bottoms Greenway** and the **Bells Bends Greenway**. **Beaman Park Nature Center** is under construction and should be open later this spring. Look for the link to the **Friends of Beaman Park** group.

Nashville Sidewalks and Bikeways. www.nashville.gov/sidewalks

Metro Public Works and Metro Planning Department will be conducting public meetings to receive community feedback on the strategic plan for sidewalks and bikeways. Dates and times of the meetings are shown here <http://www.nashville.gov/pw/pdfs/main/SidewalkPlanMeeting08.pdf> .

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For more information, visit www.nashville.gov/sidewalks. If you attend a meeting, please express support for connecting the sidewalks and bikeways to the greenways system for one, multi-use network for alternative transportation. If you can't attend a meeting but still wish to provide input, e-mail here <mailto:info@nashvilleplan.org>.

Tennessee Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Services Division

GIS Services has a new map of Tennessee that is now available to the public.

Go to: <http://tnmap.state.tn.us/viewer/map.aspx> to check this site out.

Outdoor Chattanooga www.outdoorchattanooga.com

If you are ready to go hiking, mountain biking, camping, bird watching or just get outside this spring, this is the website for you.

For more information, contact ruth@outdoorchattanooga.com or call 423-643-6889.

Bikes Belong Coalition <http://www.bikesbelong.org>

In need of funding for a bicycle project? Bikes Belong provides funding for Facilities and Advocacy grants. Go to: <http://www.bikesbelong.org/grants> for more details about the grant program. For information on Application Deadlines <http://www.bikesbelong.org/node/11968>.

American Trails <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/index.html>

Do you need information about accessible trail design and to find out whether your trail meets the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specifications? This is the website that has the answers to your questions. Go to: <http://www.access-board.gov/po1.cfm> to print out copies of the technical guidelines for ADA compliance for different facilities.

You can also find information about accessible trails at the American Trails website. Go to: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/NPRMnews6-07.html>.

TDEC-RES Greenways and Trails Program has published a technical bulletin on guidelines for ADA Accessible trails. Go to <http://www.tdec.net/recreation/greentrails.shtml>, first item in the Helpful Links Column. Remember that trail designs for transportation related pedestrian paths are different from front country/backcountry recreation trails.

Trust for Public Lands,

http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=21968&folder_id=3409

See the article on Richard Louv, about his book *Last Child in the Woods, Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*.

UPCOMING DATES TO BE AWARE OF:

2008 Calendar of Greenways and Trails Events

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Earth Day	April 22, 2008	Statewide events
National Trails Day	June 7, 2008	Statewide events
IMBA World Summit 2008	June 18-21, 2008	Park City, UT
Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee (BRAT)	September 14-20, 2008	Upper East Tennessee
Governor's Land & Water Forum IV	October, 2008	At a State Park
National Recreation & Parks Assoc. Annual Conference	October 14-18, 2008	Baltimore, MD
Southern Appalachian Greenway Alliance Conference – Building Healthy and Wealthy Communities	October 24-25, 2008	Abingdon, VA
National Trails Symposium	November 15-18, 2008	Little Rock, AR
TRPA Annual Conference	November 17-21, 2008	Memphis, TN

Please send your event information to Bob Richards as soon as you are aware of the date for inclusion in the Greenways and Trails TIDBITS newsletter as space permits. This newsletter is produced bimonthly, or when there is enough information to distribute.

*Information provided in this newsletter is taken from other sources and it is strongly recommended that you go to those sources directly for complete information about an activity or event. Mention of products or companies in this newsletter is **NOT** an endorsement of those products or companies by the Greenways and Trails Program.*



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**Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Recreation Educational Services Division
Bob Richards, Greenways and Trails Coordinator
10th Floor L&C Tower, 401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-0439
615-532-0753
www.tdec.net/recreation**